



Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council  
 Monthly Board & Stakeholder Meeting Minutes  
 Monday, January 12, 2015, 6:00 p.m.  
 Peck Park Auditorium

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by President Ray Regalado. There was a quorum of 14 board members. See list below for board member attendance. Approximately 35 stakeholders in attendance.

<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Roll Call/Attendance</b>
Scott Allman	Present
Bob Bryant	Present
Pete Burmeister	Present
Rogelio Cuevas	Present
Dan Dixon	Excused
Craig Goldfarb	Present
Cynthia Gonyea	Present
Carolyn Grayson	Present
Laurie Jacobs	Present
Diana Nave	Present
Raymond Regalado	Present
Barbara Schach	Present
George Thompson	Excused
Sarah Valdez	Excused
Darlene Zavalney	Present
Yvette Thomas	Present
Joe Zaarour	Present

**Reports from Public Officials and First Responders:**

2. **Council District 15 Report:** Councilman Joe Buscaino was in attendance and thanked the NWSPNC Board for putting in their time and effort for the community. He also thanked his Field Deputy, Ryan Ferguson for his work with the San Pedro residents. The Councilman responded to questions from the Board. Highlights follow:  
 2015 Vision and Goals for CD15:
  - a. **LA Waterfront:** The Councilman’s goal is to ensure that waterfront development moves forward. He wants to see more retail and commercial space and a variety of restaurants at the waterfront.
  - b. **Rancho Housing Project:** An Update was provided on the proposed feasibility study of the Rancho San Pedro housing development which needs upgrades.
  - c. **Streets and sidewalks:** Citywide the City Council and City Controller are working to assure there is adequate funding to craft a comprehensive finance plan to fix our streets and sidewalks. Chairing the Public Works gives the Councilman a chance to work with the city council on this issue.
  - d. **Stakeholder issues:** Questions and concerns that come from stakeholders are logged by the Councilman’s office and social media is monitored.
  - e. **GMO’s** should be regulated by the state and federal government and not the city which has limited resources. The Councilman is not a fan of GMO’s.

- f. **ENS:** The Councilman urges stakeholders to utilize the city's Early Notification System to monitor council agendas.
- g. **Gaffey Street:** The Councilman stressed that he embraces the input from the community in the design phase.
- h. **Boys Scout Camp (Cabrillo Beach Youth Watersports Center):** The councilman has asked the Port Director to hold off on the RFP. He has asked that Port Director Seroka work with the Neighborhood Councils on this issue. *(NWSPNC President Ray Regalado clarified to the Councilman that the Port did not actually give the NC's the desired result to roll back the RFP and get community input sessions which is what was being asked for. This did not occur. There was only a delay of 30 days. It is encouraging that the Port Director has become more accessible to the neighborhood councils.)*
- i. **Rancho LPG:** The councilman commented that he would move the tanks if he had the authority. He has been asking every level of government and regulatory agencies to assist in getting Rancho relocated. He was disappointed when the Department of Homeland Security said there was nothing they could do. Anything he can do in his power he will do. He continues to monitor the issue. *(NWSPNC President Ray Regalado commented that he would like to see an event where we could get all the agencies together to discuss the Rancho tank issue).*
- j. **Newsletter:** The Councilman offered to write an article for the upcoming NWSPNC newsletter
- k. **110 Freeway Study:** We want to redevelop the waterfront and with that will come density and traffic. The Councilman supports the traffic study. Ways of improving traffic flow is being sought.
- l. **Neighborhood Councils:** Wants to see a diversity of people at the neighborhood councils. Would like to see more community impact statements when an item is on the City Council Agenda. The Councilman agrees that when NC's come to speak at a council meeting they should get more than two minutes. This needs to be handled internally with his colleagues. *(Board member Pete Burmeister stressed the importance of Neighborhood Council Board Members being given adequate time to provide comment at City Department Meetings).*
- m. **Economic Development:** General fund dollars can be generated through economic development. A lease agreement is the first step. *(Comment from James Allen that the community needs to know how much revenue is being collected from the Port that does not go to the Port which would lead to the question of how much should the city and other agencies who do collect those taxes be willing to invest back onto our waterfront).* The Councilman further commented on the subject and the need for public access to the waterfront for everyone up and down the state.
- n. **Ponte Vista:** The project is in the final stages of demolition.
- o. **Raises to City Employees:** In response to Craig Goldfarb's questions related to the budget, the Councilman commented that he stands with the Mayor that there should be no raises to city employees until they get their fiscal house in order.
- p. **Promise Zone:** In response to a question about Promise Zone Grants from a Wilmington resident. The Councilman reported that the 23 million dollars in grants were not awarded to the Harbor Area. The grants were awarded to programs by non-profits in the Hollywood area. They look at the economy and demographics of a specific area when awarding the grants. The Harbor Area did not qualify.
- q. **Paseo del Mar:** In response to a question about Paseo del Mar and when it might be reconstructed, the Councilman commented that the next step is to seek Federal money to rebuild. This will not happen overnight. In the meantime, turnabouts are being constructed.
- r. **A broader view:** The Councilman feels we need to be bold and bring more public transportation here. He is asking for the community to fight for light rail to be brought to the Harbor Area.

3. **Presentation by City Controller Ron Galperin:** Ron Galperin provided some background on how he became the City Controller and on his prior involvement as a vice president and budget advocate in

the neighborhood council system. He has a deep connection with neighborhood councils and believes strongly in the NC system. Highlights from the controller's presentation follow:

- a. His goal is to find ways to bring the city into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.
- b. He is making sure there is access to the city books so that everyone can see how our money is spent.
- c. Officials in the City are getting along. Collaboration is essential and there is now a greater spirit of collaboration.
- d. The Controller's Office is in charge of payroll for 40,000 city employees every two weeks. They also prepare the financial statements of the city and are in charge of audits. They are also responsible for disbursing the payments of the city for everything the city buys in goods and services. They have a staff of 150 people.
- e. The Controller's goal is to focus on technology as a whole.
- f. A review of online access to the city's finance was provided. This information can be accessed online through "Controlpanel.la."

4. **Los Angeles Port Police:** The Port Officer gave a brief report:

- a. 110 Freeway Sound Walls are under construction. Arrests are being made on graffiti offenses. The Port Police are in charge of policing the sound walls. Call 310-732-3500 to report crimes in progress.
- b. They are encountering a lot of transient's around the South Gaffey off ramp.

5. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:**

- a. **Lydia Gutierrez:** Running for LAUSD School Board. She would like to see transparency in the LAUSD.
- b. **Sam Herrera:** Thanked the Council for past funding for students of the San Pedro YMCA's SPPY Youth and Government program.
- c. **Alberto Encinas:** Also spoke about the Youth and Government Program.
- d. **Alexander Hall,** Central San Pedro NC Board Member, talked about LAHHSa and the homeless count starting January 28. Volunteers are needed.

6. **Consent Calendar:** Motion by Darlene Zavalney, seconded by Carolyn Grayson to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Motion passed with 14 yes votes (Allman, Bryant, Burmeister, Cuevas, Goldfarb, Gonyea, Grayson, Jacobs, Nave, Regalado, Schach, Zavalney, Thomas, Zaarour); 0 no, 0 abstentions. Items on consent calendar follow:

- a. Approval of December 8, 2014 Board & Stakeholder Meeting Minutes
- b. Appointment of Janet Gunter to Green Committee
- c. Removal of Alexis Geich from Youth and Outreach Committee

## Committee Reports and Motions

7. **Issues Committee** – Report – Dan Dixon: No report.

8. **Port Committee:** Pat Nave reported on that most recent Port Committee meeting which was followed by a "Committee of a Whole" meeting. The main purpose of the Committee of the Whole was to discuss the Port's Public Access Facility Funding Policy. The following motion was brought forth by the committee:

### PROPOSED RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Port of Los Angeles ["Port"] is proposing a Public Access Facility funding policy ["Policy"] that limits the amount the Port will spend on constructing the improvements promised in its 2009 approved waterfront development EIRs [the "Funds"]; and  
WHEREAS, the Port also proposes to limit funding for maintenance and operation expenses for public access facilities; and

WHEREAS, many of the improvements included in those EIR's have not been constructed and have now been removed from the Port budget and Capital Improvement Program [CIP];  
WHEREAS, the Port proposes to deduct environmental expenses and threatened litigation and settlement expenses from the Funds; and  
WHEREAS, many Public Access Facilities in the Port are actually mitigations constructed for specific Port industrial improvements; and  
WHEREAS, Port financial reports, including the 2014 Harbor Revenue Fund report, show that the Port has sufficient funds in its Unrestricted Cash accounts, other accounts, and Operating Income accounts, currently and on average at least over the last ten years, to fund the improvements listed herein; and  
WHEREAS, the Port has not included sales tax revenue, the City share of possessory interest taxes, business license taxes, bed taxes, impacts on employment, or small business opportunity in its calculation of return on investment in Public Access Facilities; and  
WHEREAS, we appreciate the Port's past efforts and accomplishments to improve the LA Waterfront and urge the Port to continue fulfilling its obligation to develop and improve the tide and submerged lands for the benefit of the people of the State of California, especially the substantial land areas of the Port that are not suitable for industrial development but are suitable for Public Access uses; and  
WHEREAS, the Port has proposed its Policy without soliciting input from Neighborhood Councils, thereby raising issues addressed in Sections 907 and 910 of the City Charter, such as notice, opportunity to provide input, and monitoring of City services;

NOW THEREFORE, the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council [NWSPNC] hereby requests that the Port table its draft policy and instead work with the five Neighborhood Councils in the harbor area and the three local Chambers of Commerce to revise the draft policy in a way that is supportable by the Port, the Neighborhood Councils, and the Chambers; and

FURTHER RESOLVES that the Port, in its 2015-2016 budget and Capital Improvement Program ["CIP"], fund the following six projects [the "Projects"] from the approved 2009 EIR's without applying any limitations contained in the proposed Policy:

- a. Complete the final design work for the Wilmington Waterfront Development Project, using the approved Wilmington EIR, the Port Master Plan and Wilmington's Community Guiding Principles.
- b. Design and construct the Sampson Way/Harbor Blvd realignment.
- c. Enhance access to Wilmington waterfront via Avalon which is direct, functional, and aesthetically pleasing so it enhances rejuvenation of downtown Wilmington via pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicle access to Banning's Landing/waterfront prior to closure of Avalon and Fries.
- d. Complete the promenade South of the Town Plaza through Ports of Call to Alta Sea.
- e. Complete the promenade along the Wilmington Waterfront (demo Catalina Freight buildings) with an Observation Tower, dedicated pier(s) which include dock space for Wilmington Youth Sailing Center, LAMI to finish tall ship, and restaurant/retail development.
- f. Construct the Town Plaza at the foot of 6th street.

THE NWSPNC FURTHER RESOLVES, that in addition to including the Projects in its 2014-2015 budget and CIP, the Port instruct its staff to proceed this fiscal year with preparing the specifications, RFP's, contracts, bids, etc. and award the contracts for the work on the Projects; that the Port provide the Neighborhood Councils with quarterly status updates regarding the Projects; and

THE NWSPNC FURTHER RESOLVES that in redrafting its policy, the Port recognize that

- a. Substantial portions of the Port lands are not suitable for industrial development and can only be developed for non-industrial, visitor serving facilities including recreation and education,
- b. Such non-industrial facilities may have a return on investment that include revenues to the City and public [such as sales taxes, business license taxes, City share of possessory interest taxes, bed taxes, job growth, small business opportunities] if not the Harbor Revenue Fund, and should be included in the Port's return on investment calculations,
- c. Many facilities the Port considers to be Public Access Facilities, including some of the Projects, are mitigation for the recognized environmental impacts of industrial facilities, and
- d. The costs for the facilities included in [c] above, and for their maintenance and operation, should be considered as costs of the related Port industrial facilities and operations.

Above motion from committee approved with 14 yes votes (Allman, Bryant, Burmeister, Cuevas, Goldfarb, Gonyea, Grayson, Jacobs, Nave, Regalado, Schach, Zavalney, Thomas, Zaarour); 0 no, 0 abstentions

9. **Green Committee:** No report.
10. **Youth and Outreach Committee:** Darlene Zavalney provided a written report which can be viewed on the NWSPNC.org website.
  - a. Pathways to Employment update – Next Planning meeting is tomorrow night (January 13, 2015).
  - b. Newsletter. Bob announced the newsletter deadlines.
11. **Planning and Land Use Committee:** Diana Nave reported on the joint committee meeting with the Central San Pedro NC. The topic of the meeting was the proposed lane reduction on Gaffey and the conceptual plan. The big news was that Joe Buscaino got up and said there will be no lane reduction. The conceptual plan workshop has been postponed for a month or two.
12. **Public Safety Committee:** Carolyn Grayson provided a written report. The committee meeting primarily focused on Emergency Preparedness Events that are being planned. CERT training will be held in Lomita on the following consecutive dates: January 24<sup>th</sup>, January 31<sup>st</sup> and Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> from 9-5. See Carolyn if interested.
13. **Budget and Finance:** The following items were brought forth for action:
  - a. **Consider Approval of December Expenditure Report.** Motion by Bob Bryant to approve December Expenditure Report as presented, seconded by Carolyn Grayson. Motion passed with 12 yes votes (Allman, Bryant, Burmeister, Cuevas, Goldfarb, Gonyea, Grayson, Jacobs, Nave, Regalado, Schach, Zavalney), 0 no, 2 ineligible (Zaarour/Thomas)
  - b. **Consider Approval of December Budget.** Motion by Scott Allman to approve December Budget as presented, seconded by Carolyn Grayson. Motion passed with 12 yes votes (Allman, Bryant, Burmeister, Cuevas, Goldfarb, Gonyea, Grayson, Jacobs, Nave, Regalado, Schach, Zavalney), 0 no, 2 ineligible (Zaarour/Thomas)
  - c. **Review updated Monthly Expenditure Report for November and bank statements:** Motion by Bob Bryant to approve updated Monthly Expenditure Report and Bank Statements for November as presented in agenda packet, seconded by Roger Cuevas. Motion passed with 12 yes votes (Allman, Bryant, Burmeister, Cuevas, Goldfarb, Gonyea, Grayson, Jacobs, Nave, Regalado, Schach, Zavalney), 0 no, 2 ineligible (Zaarour/Thomas).

14. **Executive Committee:** Ray Regalado reported on the recent Neighborhood Council Presidents meeting and the attendance of the Port of LA Director, Gene Seroka who is scheduled to attend the NWSPNC February stakeholder meeting.
15. **HANC (Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils):** Diana Nave gave highlights from the written HANC report. The main topic at that meeting was a presentation by Department of Transportation General Manager Seleta Reynolds on their strategic plan.
16. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:51pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kristina Smith for NWSPNC